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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

Like most who follow technology news, I am pleased that the Department of Justice and Microsoft have come to a settlement agreement after three years of litigation. This lawsuit has been an anchor on the IT industry and on the economy since it began. Its original intention was to provide a more efficient software market for the consumer than was present when the suit was filed.

Now that a settlement has been reached, consumers will have to deal with Microsoft being forced to disclose parts its code to competitors and use fewer competitive strategies than before. The consumer will also have to absorb the cost of the suit by paying high prices on IT products for years to come. Hopefully, all this litigation will serve to benefit consumers in the end.

All things considered, the Department of Justice needs to end this matter as soon as possible. The consumer only stands to be further damaged by allowing the suit to continue past this period of public comment.

Sincerely,



Henry Reents

CC: Senator Larry Craig